

The GRANGE

Issue: 77

SEPTEMBER 1999

And So Another Grange Year Begins

A tree near me is always the first each year to change colour. It is gorgeous but a warning that autumn The season of mist and mellow fruitfulness. . ." is not far off.

Our Grangers have been at cottages, the Shaw Festival, Stratford and abroad as well as spending time with children and grandchildren. All the while, The Grange has been host to floods of visitors and our volunteers have worked hard all summer.

I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and are ready to take part in our activities and the excitement of a new year. A warm welcome back.

- Mona Rankin, *The Grange Chair*

IN THIS ISSUE

Coming Events 2

The Grange Volunteer Executive 2

Volunteers Needed 2

Curatorial Corner 3

Nut Crackers 3

Heritage Apple Web site 3

Recommended Reading 4

Dickens, J. Beverley & Beverley House 4

Walking Woman / Kettledrum stories 4

"LAW and ORDER" at The Grange

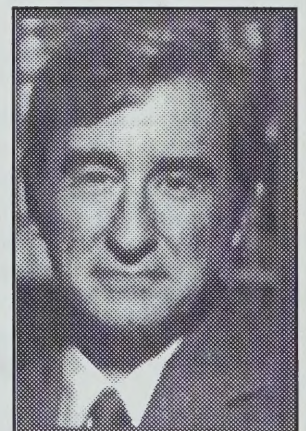
On Sunday July 11th, 1999, I was talking to an interested and interesting couple from Pennsylvania, when I noticed the husband give his wife a nudge in the back. Assuming that he wanted to leave, I ended our conversation politely and we said our "farewells".

As volunteers, we pride ourselves on our ability to read the gestures of our guests. As I thought to myself that I had done the correct thing, I soon understood the real meaning of the "nudge" by the Pennsylvanian.

Climbing the spiral staircase of The Grange was none other than Sam Waterson of "Law and Order"! Trying to remain nonchalant, I welcomed him to The Grange and then promptly blurted out: "I watch your programme regularly." Seeming to hear this often, he smiled his thanks and went on to ask several questions about the upstairs area.

Sam Waterson is starring with Jennifer Beale in a movie that is being filmed in Mississauga. The story takes place in the period of 1830 - 1860, so he was interested in looking around The Grange.

Later, when we were changing to go home, all of us were chattering like a bunch of "groupies" about our famous visitor. We all agreed that he was very pleasant, easy to talk to and he certainly made our day! - Enid Martin, *Sunday Volunteer*



Sam Waterson star of hit series "Law and Order" and more recently, star visitor with the Sunday Grange Volunteers.

The Grange Volunteer Executive 1999-2000

CHAIR
Mona Rankin
(905) 727-9330

SECRETARY
Catherine Stroud
(905) 528-6156

TREASURER/RESEARCH
Avril Stringer
Tel: (416) 924-3642

COMMITTEES

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Marg McGuigan
Tel: (416) 964-2283

HOUSE COMMITTEE
Jane Heinemann
Tel: (416) 466-0078

HISTORIC KITCHENS
Anna Patrick
Tel: (416) 322-0763

MODERN KITCHEN
Jane Ash
Elvira Putrus
Tel: (416) 233-7316
(416) 759-7175

STAFFING
Georgette Caldwell
Tel: (416) 654-1536

DAY CAPTAINS

Monday: Jane Heinemann
Tuesday: Elvira Putrus
Wednesday: Cathy Stroud
Wednesday Bridge: Helvi Hunter
Wednesday Eve: Marg McGuigan
Thursday: June O'Brien
Friday: Beverley Sutton
Saturday: Helen Brown
Sunday: Edna Rigby

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Elaine Maloney
Tel: (416) 766-7000

**CURATORIAL
ASSISTANT**
Jenny Rieger
(416) 979-6660 ext: 237

COMING EVENTS

September Volunteer Training Supper

FIRE and FUN
Guest speaker: Peter Watson
Date: Tuesday, September 21, 1998
Time: 5:00 pm
Music Room, The Grange

October Volunteer Training Supper

St. Anne's Church and the Group of Seven treasures
Guest speaker: Rev. Peter Orme
Date: Tuesday, October 19, 1998
Time: 5:30 pm
Music Room, The Grange

November Volunteer Training Supper

To be announced
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 1998
Time: 5:30 pm
Music Room, The Grange

DAY CAPTAIN MEETINGS

1999 - 2000

Monday, September 20, 1999

Monday, October 18, 1999

Monday, November 15, 1999

Monday, January 17, 2000

Monday, March 20, 2000

Monday, May 15, 2000

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

1999-2000

Four Issues Per Year

SEPT 1999
(Deadline for articles 20 AUG 99)

DECEMBER 1999
(Deadline for articles 15 NOV 99)

MARCH 2000
(Deadline for articles 14 FEB 99)

JUNE 2000
(Deadline for articles 22 MAY 99)

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

There is a need to think about how to implement the new interpretive plan.
What are we doing now that supports it?
What changes, what strategies, what stories, what new things could we be doing?
The Grange should be a place for generating, reflecting, assessing and re-assessing
ideas of history and visual culture and their relevance to today's society.

We have had one session already that was very interesting.
Please join the discussion.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1999 @ 2 o'clock p.m.
The Grange Library

CURATORIAL CORNER !

Well, it's September when our thoughts turn to school - at least they do if you are a parent, teacher or museum educator! The Grange's education programmes have again changed drastically with the, yet again, new curriculum and it seems like a good idea to talk about our programmes in this newsletter.

I thought I would start with a bit of a background first. In the early years of The Grange there were numerous educational tours led by staff, and later by volunteers. They were only offered when the house was open, were available to all grades and consisted of a slide presentation and house tour done by the volunteers on the shift. This approach had its problems. If a shift were short staffed, having a school group depleted the team even more.

At some point, the Toronto Urban Studies Centre approached The Grange about creating a programme for the Daily Pursuits Curriculum. TUSC was originally set up to develop and manage outdoor education programmes for the Toronto Board of Education, however, gradually their mandate expanded to include curriculum units based on Toronto history. Each different unit consisted of a series of lesson plans for the teacher and organized field trips.

The TUSC programme developed for The Grange for grade 7 students, involved a num-

ber of lesson plans on life in nineteenth-century Toronto, a visit to the Sesquicentennial Museum (at the Board of Education) and the visit to The Grange in the afternoon. In the early years, volunteers at The Grange would work with the students in "first person" as parlour maid or cook. The students would be divided into two groups who would either do a cooking activity or parlour activities. The most recent version, not done in "first person," had each group do a baking activity and make silhouettes. Over time, The Grange's other school programmes declined, until the TUSC groups were the only ones who came. In the past two years, the number of volunteers willing to do this programme has also declined (it required a minimum of 3 volunteers).

The newest school curriculum has a totally different approach than the Common Curriculum. Rather than be based on learning outcomes (i.e. the development of strategies for learning), the new curriculum is based on the acquisition of a specific body of knowledge. In terms of Canada this means that grade 3 students study pioneers, grade 4s Canadian geography, grade 5s Canadian government and grade 6s Canada and its trading partners. It is not until grade 7 that students study Canadian history. While the grade 7

by Jenny Rieger

course is very similar to previous curriculum, the focus has shifted away from social history to political history. The TUSC programme of the past no longer meets the requirements for grade 7.

So, what is going to happen to The Grange's education programmes? Last year, I worked with Linda Kricorissian, programme coordinator in the education department, to develop *Looking Back* for grades 4 to 6 students. We have been working this summer on modifying it to be suitable for grade 3 students. Students will, using both Canadian nineteenth-century art and the objects in the house, create a Settler's Guide. We are developing a programme on the Rebellion of 1837 that looks at the issues of the rebellion from the Family Compact perspective and looks at the role the arts play as propaganda tools. TUSC is also putting together a programme for grade 7 students on the Rebellion and we will be discussing the various options early in September. These programmes will be offered morning and afternoon Tuesday to Friday. They will be led by education docents and any Grange volunteers who would like to do the training. While it is sad that students can no longer do any cooking in the house, it is exciting to see the potential of these new programmes to build our school audiences.

NUTCRACKERS

The answer to the first question is a very definite "yes." In fact there is a long nutcracker tradition with elaborately carved European examples in wood going back to the Middle Ages. From the 17th century there are also examples in metals, and from then until the present day nutcrackers can be found in either wood or metal.

Common people have probably long cracked nuts open with their teeth, but a tool obviously made the task a lot easier. There are three basic types of nutcracker:

1. The oldest type was a sort of mallet for striking the shell.
2. Then a lever device was developed for applying pressure. The earliest dated medieval specimens are all of this type and most consist of a carved head with an articulated jaw, obviously imitating a person cracking the shell with his teeth.
3. Probably in the 17th century a screw device first appeared, was very popular for a while, and then in the 18th and 19th centuries the older, lever type was revived but in a simpler form.

I think we can conclude that the Boultons would most certainly have had nutcrackers in the 1830s. These nutcrackers would have been the lever type, and they would have looked a lot like the ones we know today.

Unfortunately, as far as I know, we do not have a nutcracker among our artifacts at The Grange, so we cannot display one with the nuts.

- Jane Heinemann, The House Committee

For further information and illustrations, the following books are in our library:

Chats on Household Curios, by F.W. Burgess, p 113

Treen and Other Wooden Bygones, by Edward H. Pinto, pp 75-78

Iron and Brass Implements of the English House, by J. Seymour Lindsay, p 74.

APPLES IN UPPER CANADA:

A Web Site

As you will all remember we have had questions and arguments about what apples were available in Upper Canada in the early nineteenth century and consequently, what we should have in the house.

Anna Patrick has recently discovered a "Heritage Apple" Website. www.Uxbridge.com.siloam
The information and list runs 12 pages so it cannot be included here. However, for those who are interested, but have no Internet access, a copy will be kept in The Grange Research Files. -Avril Stringer, Research

REMINDER
Please submit your news
articles for the next
Grange Newsletter by
NOV 15 th, 1999.

Recommended Reading:

Pistols at Six O'Clock, Upper Canada's Last Deadly Duel

[In: *Beaver Magazine* Aug/Sept 1999]

Perth, Ontario in 1833 was the venue for this fateful duel, the participants Robert Lyon and John Wilson, both law students, Wilson a student of James Boulton. The lady in the case was Elizabeth Hughes, a local teacher. Wilson was captivated by Elizabeth and when told by Lyon that he and Caroline Thom, (James Boulton's sister-in-law) had conspired to allow Elizabeth and Henry Lelieve, the son of a French naval officer, to meet and to sit "with his arms around about her in a position which no woman of spirit would permit." Wilson wrote to a friend, repeating the story and questioning the principles of honour of a man who could make such a statement relating "to an unprotected female".

The letter became public knowledge. Lyon who believed this had been done deliberately to insult him, attacked Wilson. Wilson's attempts to affect a reconciliation failed and he finally challenged Lyon to a duel.

The story of this duel is also included in *A Matter of Honour* by Susan Code, General Store Publishing House, 1996. Code, a Perth native, turns her account into a "story" with imagined dialogue etc. There are minor discrepancies between the two reports but the basic facts remain, Robert Lyon was killed and John Wilson and Elizabeth Hughes were married. Both authors suggest the marriage was one of convenience rather than affection, but it did last for 34 years until Wilson's death in 1869.

P.S. James Boulton himself was not unfamiliar with the concept of "honour". James's method of defending his honour however, was more original. In *Perth Remembered* (Edward Shortt, editor) is quoted an article from *The Daily Citizen*, November 5, 1877, (it refers to an incident 40 years prior) "It seems that a dandified gentleman ... raised the choler of the irascible Mr. Boulton, who applied some terms to him, the use of which he was always an adept in. The dandy challenged him. Mr. Boulton, who was by no means deficient in pluck," naturally objected, but he refused the challenge. When the dandy called James a "poltroon" and boasted of his own valour, James took action. "he invested in a good stout horsewhip and sallied forth on the warpath". James chased his adversary for "some couple of hundred yards". A lady who witnessed the scene said she "never saw better time made over the same distance." This halted further challenges to James Boulton. "His skill in handling a flagellatory implement being sufficient to make him as bullet proof as a shirt of mail."

- Avril Stringer, *The Grange Research*

DICKENS, JOHN BEVERLEY AND BEVERLEY HOUSE

Charles Dickens visited Toronto in 1842 following a tour of the United States. According to reports, he was favourably impressed with the City, commenting on the well-stocked shops and the gas street lighting.

However, he perhaps was not so impressed with the "social scene". According to Christopher Simpson in the July 10th issues of *What's On Queen* magazine, although Dickens received formal dinner invitations from many prominent Torontonians, he accepted only one, that was from Chief Justice John Beverley Robinson at Beverley House.

Beverley House, originally a brick cottage built by D'Arcy Boulton jr prior to the War of 1812, was purchased by John Beverley in 1816.

The house was considerably improved and enlarged both by John Beverley and his son Christopher to become the imposing house shown in the picture of 1911.

-Avril Stringer, *Research*



Beverley House

The Walking Woman is Still Walking

In 1995 when Elizabeth Chish-Graham finished her tenure as Chair of The Grange, she was presented with a lovely pin; a rendition of Michael Snow's *Walking Woman*. Elizabeth thought the pin so appropriate as she had been walking for two years - up and down the stairs of the three floors of The Grange.

Wearing the pin at a party one evening last year, she arrived home to find it was missing. Calling her hostess at 11:30 pm, the pin was discovered on the curb outside the house where Elizabeth's car had been parked. This was the second time the clasp had loosened and the pin had "gone walking".

When the clasp was repaired at the Gallery it was too late for Elizabeth to pick it up as she was on her way to Florida for the winter - the pin was taken home by Gallery staff for "safekeeping". A few weeks ago when she called to retrieve the pin she found that her pin had been stolen along with all the jewellery from "safekeeping". The pin had "gone walking" again.

A replacement is now safely with Elizabeth who hopes the pin's walking days are over.

Kettledrum Came Out Of Retirement

They are not referred to as "Kettledrum" any longer but they came out of retirement to make tantalizing tea goodies for the Sustainers and Past Presidents, AGO Director, Matthew Teitelbaum, AGO Volunteer President Ute Blake, Vice President Wanda Dube in The Grange Music Room. As part of Volunteer Appreciation Week, the group formerly known as The Volunteer Committee Sustainers and Past Presidents were feted in April. Reviving their repertoire were Nancy Lofft, Jane Carruthers, Elizabeth Chish-Graham and alumnae Kettledrummer, Julie Gray.

AMENDMENT

In our last newsletter, Issue 76, the following news item appeared incomplete. Here it is again.

From: The Colonial Advocate February 9, 1826.

WOOD

And Country Produce Generally

Received in payment for the COLONIAL ADVOCATE newspaper,
if delivered at the Printing Office.

Nov. 10, 1825